



**State of Washington  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200

**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST  
(WAC 197-11-960)**

**A. BACKGROUND**

- 1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:** Zillah Access Flood Damage Repair
- 2. Name of Applicant:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- 3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:**

Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife  
Capitol Programs & Engineering Division  
600 Capitol Way North  
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Contact Person: Marty Peoples  
Fish and Wildlife Biologist  
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- 4. Date checklist prepared:** April 7, 2011
- 5. Agency requesting checklist:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- 6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):**  
Fall 2011
- 7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.**  
No.
- 8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal:**  
FEMA Biological Evaluation.
- 9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.**  
None are pending.
- 10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.**  
A Yakima County Shoreline Exemption, WDFW HPA, and Army CORP Section 10 permit will be

needed.

**11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page.**

This project consists of repairing flood damage at an existing boat launch ramp and access area on the Yakima River located near Zillah. This ramp is currently non-functioning due to the flood damage. Concrete planks and cabled concrete are broken and displaced rendering the launch unusable. The current launch will be decommissioned and restored to a natural condition. A new gravel launch located on the main Zillah Access parking area will be provided. This new launch site is already developed and will be modified for use as a ramp. The specific components of this project are:

1. Remove existing concrete plank ramp, cabled concrete debris and associated rip rap from the Yakima River. This damaged ramp is located mostly below Ordinary High Water with some planks and cabled concrete above OHW. Concrete debris will be hauled out of the floodplain area to an approved landfill site (or salvaged for use at other WDFW Access sites) and the river bank restored.
2. Construct a new ramp in the main parking area (see drawings) by cutting 11 cubic yards of previously placed fill material to achieve a 12% grade ramp. This new 14 foot wide ramp will be surfaced with 4 inches of crushed rock. Onsite rip rap will be moved off the ramp location to the edge of the new ramp for additional protection.
3. Repair existing California Crossing by replacing broken ramp planks. Rip rap existing next to the planks will be reset. This work will be done completely in the dry. The California Crossing is located in a high flow channel that is dry during summer months.
4. Perform mitigation in the area of former ramp (720 sf.) and restoration in former turn around area (3400 sf.). Restoration will involve plantings in abandoned parking and turn around area at the former ramp location and debris removal.

**12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.**

The Zillah Access Site is reached by driving south from Union Gap on I-82 for 15 miles to the Zillah off ramp. Take the off ramp and head south on the Meyers Road to the entrance to Zillah Access approximately 600 feet from the off ramp. This project is located in Yakima County, Section 35, Township 11 North, Range 20 East.

**B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

**1. Earth**

a. General description of the site (underline one): flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other \_\_\_\_\_.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

10% slope.

- c. **What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of the agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.**

Soils in the vicinity are classified as Weirman sandy loam, channeled.

- d. **Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.**

No.

- e. **Describe the purpose, type and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**

There will be 16.4 CY of cut material and 5.2 CY of fill material at the new ramp for a 11.2 CY net cut above OHW. No cutting or filling will be done below OHW. Imported fill will consist of clean washed crushed rock.

- f. **Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction or use? If so generally describe.**

Yes, construction activities will temporarily disturb soil surfaces.

- g. **About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?**

There will be a 5% decrease in impervious surfaces.

- h. **Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:**

Erosion impacts will be reduced by placing a sediment barrier around the construction sites to isolate the disturbed area from surface waters. Work will also be done during low flow periods to minimize impacts to the Yakima River.

## **2. Air**

- a. **What type of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

Low levels of vehicle exhaust emissions and dust from construction activities are expected during project activities. No long-term effects in air quality are anticipated to result from the completed project.

- b. **Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. No.**

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: None.**

## **3. WATER**

### **a. Surface**

- 1) **Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes ponds or wetlands)? If yes, describe type**

**and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

The Yakima River is located within the project site. The Yakima River flows into the Columbia River.

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**

Yes, all components of the project are directly adjacent to the Yakima River (see attached plans).

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

Approximately 43 CY of concrete rubble will be removed from areas below and above OHW. No fill will be placed below OHW.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

No.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

The entire site is within the 100 year floodplain.

- 6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste material to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

No.

**b. Ground**

- 1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description purpose, and approximate quantities, if known.**

No.

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

No waste material will be discharged.

**c. Water Runoff (including storm water):**

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (including quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.**

Stormwater from the former turn around area will infiltrate into newly planted restoration areas. This project will not change the existing storm water runoff patterns on the main parking area.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. No.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground and runoff water impacts, if any:

None.

#### 4. PLANTS

a. Check or underline types of vegetation found on the site:

x deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other (willow)

x evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other;

x shrubs

x grass

    pasture

    crop or grain

    wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other

    water plants: waterlily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

    other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

No vegetation will be removed to install the gravel launch. Extensive plantings of native vegetation will be made.

c. List threatened and endangered species [of plants] known to be on or near the site.

No endangered plant species are listed near this site.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

A 3400 square foot restoration area will be planted with native tree and shrub species.

#### 5. ANIMALS

a. Underline any birds or animals, which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: waterfowl.

Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Bull trout, and Middle Columbia River Steelhead are endangered species that occur near this site.

**c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.**

Juvenile and adult salmon migrate through this area.

**d. Proposed measures to preserve and enhance wildlife, if any:**

Work will be done during low water periods to minimize impacts to aquatic species. Fish and silt curtains will be used to isolate the work area and protect fish species.

**6. ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

**a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc. None.**

**b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. No.**

**c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: None.**

**7. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

**a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal. No.**

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required. None.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: None.

**b. Noise**

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? None.

3) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)?  
Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

Temporary increases in noise levels during construction activities are expected from this project. Hours of increased noise will be 7 am to 5 pm. No long term change in noise levels is expected from the completed project.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: None.

**8. LAND AND SHORELINE USE**

**a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?**

This site is used as a wildlife area and boat access area. Usage will not change with this proposal. Adjacent properties are used for agricultural purposes.

**b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so describe?**

No.

**c. Describe any structures on the site.**

Structures on this site are limited to a kiosk, self-contained toilet, barrier rock and a damaged ramp.

**d. Will any structures be demolished? If so what?**

The damaged concrete ramp will be removed.

**e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?**

Federal Land/Tribal Trust.

**f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**

Federal Land/Tribal Trust.

**g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?**

Federal Land/Tribal Trust.

**h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.**

No.

**i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**

No persons would reside here.

**j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? None.**

**k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: None.**

**l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:**

Land uses have will not be changed with this project. Recreational land uses will be preserved.

**9. HOUSING**

**a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. None.**

**b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. None.**

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: None.**

**10. AESTHETICS**

**a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

New structures are limited to ramps which are at ground level.

- b. **What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?** None.
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:** None.

#### **11. LIGHT AND GLARE**

- a. **What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

The repair will not may produce glare.

- b. **Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**  
No.
- c. **What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?** None.
- d. **Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:** None.

#### **12. RECREATION**

- a. **What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**

There are fishing opportunities near this site.

- b. **Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**

No recreational activities will be displaced.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreational opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:** None.

#### **13. HISTORIC AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION**

- a. **Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.**

None are known.

- b. **Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.**

None are known.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:**

No excavation in native soil will occur.

#### **14. TRANSPORTATION**

- a. **Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

Meyers Road serves this site.



- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If no, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No. The nearest public transit stop is in Zillah.

- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

The parking area can accommodate 30 vehicles with trailers attached. Six parking spaces will be eliminated.

- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No.

- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

This project does not occur next to established transportation routes.

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

This project may produce a slight increase in usage due to better ramp functionality, however it is anticipated that vehicles trips per day will be restored to levels that occurred prior to ramp damage.

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: None.

#### 15. PUBLIC SERVICES

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so generally describe. No.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any: None.

#### 16. UTILITIES

- a. Underline utilities currently available at the site: Electricity, Natural Gas, Water, Refuse Service, Telephone, Sanitary Sewer, Septic System, Other.

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity, which might be needed.

No utilities will be added or changed from this project.

#### C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

*Martin Peoples*

DATE SUBMITTED: \_\_\_\_\_

*4/7/11*